Claims

- [c1] A method comprising the steps:

 creating a first job ticket describing print instructions applicable to a first print job;

 creating at least one additional job ticket describing different print instructions applicable to the first print job;

 storing each job ticket.
- [c2] The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of creating at least one additional job ticket comprises creating a plurality of additional job tickets.
- [c3] The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of creating the first job ticket and the at least one additional job ticket are performed using a visual job ticketing application.
- [c4] The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 altering the first print job by moving, inserting or deleting at least one page in the first print job;
 automatically amending the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional ob ticket appropriately to account for the alteration of the first print job.
- [c5] The method of claim 2 further comprising:
 altering the first print job by moving, inserting or deleting at least one page in the first print job;
 automatically amending the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the alteration of the first print job.
- [c6] The method of claim 1 wherein the step of storing each job ticket comprises storing an indication of which job ticket was last active with respect to the first print job.
- [c7] The method of claim 1 further comprising:

 importing at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 choosing to retain the print characteristics of the at least one imported page as

defined in the job ticket associated with the second print job; automatically amending the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.

- [c8] The method of claim 2 further comprising:

 importing at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 choosing to retain the print characteristics of the at least one imported page as

 defined in the job ticket associated with the second print job;

 automatically amending the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the

 plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the at least one

 imported page.
- [c9] The method of claim 1 further comprising:

 importing at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 choosing to assign a default set of print characteristics to the at least one

 imported page corresponding to a set of document-wide print characteristics

 defined in a currently active job ticket associated with the first print job;

 automatically amending the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at

 least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the at least one

 imported page.
- [c10] The method of claim 2 further comprising:

 importing at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 choosing to assign a default set of print characteristics to the at least one

 imported page corresponding to a set of document-wide print characteristics

 defined in a currently active job ticket associated with the first print job;

 automatically amending the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the

 plurality of job tickets appropriately to account for the at least one imported

 page.
- [c11] The method of claim 1 wherein the step of creating at least one additional job ticket comprises:

 choosing one from among;

loading a blank job ticket as the active job ticket;

loading a selected, previously-created job ticket as the active job ticket; retaining the first job ticket as the active job ticket; and loading a default job ticket as the active job ticket; and editing the print characteristics of the active job ticket to create the at least one additional job ticket.

- [c12] The method of claim 11 wherein the editing step is performed using a visual ticketing application whereby the first print job is displayed using visual cues indicating the print characteristics denoted by the active job ticket, as edited.
- [c13] The method of claim 2 wherein the step of creating a plurality of additional job tickets comprises, for each additional job ticket:

 choosing one from among;

loading a blank job ticket as the active job ticket;
loading a selected, previously-created job ticket as the active job ticket;
retaining the previous job ticket as the active job ticket; and
loading a default job ticket as the active job ticket; and
editing the print characteristics of the active job ticket to create the additional
job ticket.

- [c14] The method of claim 13 wherein the editing step is performed using a visual ticketing application whereby the first print job is displayed using visual cues indicating the print characteristics denoted by the active job ticket, as edited.
- [c15] Apparatus comprising:

 an information handling system having a processor, memory and a display; and end user interface program instructions stored accessibly to the information handing system and effective when executing on said processor to access a first print job which is stored accessibly to the information handling system and which defines a document to be printed and to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to create a first job ticket describing print instructions applicable to the first print job; enable an operator of the information handling system to create at least one additional job ticket describing different print instructions applicable to the first print job; and

store each job ticket accessibly to the information handling system.

- [c16] The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to enable an operator of the information handling system to create a plurality of additional job tickets applicable to the first print job.
- [c17] The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to implement a visual ticketing application to enable an operator of the information handling system to create job tickets applicable to the first print job.
- [c18] The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to alter the first print job by moving, deleting or inserting at least one page in the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the alteration of the first print job.
- [c19] The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to alter the first print job by moving, deleting or inserting at least one page in the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the alteration of the first print job.
- [c20] The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

 store each job ticket with an indication of which job ticket was last active with respect to the first print job.
- [c21] The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one

page from a second print job into the first print job;

enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to retain the print of the at least one imported page as defined in the job ticket associated with the second print job;

automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.

- The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to retain the print of the at least one imported page as defined in the job ticket associated with the second print job;

 automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.
- The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to assign a default set of print characteristics to the at least one imported page corresponding to a set of document—wide print characteristics defined in a currently active job ticket associated with the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.
- [c24]
 The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:
 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one

page from a second print job into the first print job; enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to assign a default set of print characteristics to the at least one imported page corresponding to a set of document-wide print characteristics defined in a currently active job ticket associated with the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.

[c25] The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

enable an operator of the information handling system to create at least one additional job ticket by:

choosing one from among;

loading a blank job ticket as the active job ticket;
loading a selected, previously-created job ticket as the active job ticket;
retaining the first job ticket as the active job ticket; and
loading a default job ticket as the active job ticket; and
enable an operator of the information handling system to edit the print
characteristics of the active job ticket to create the at least one additional job
ticket.

[c26] The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to implement a visual ticketing application whereby the first print job is displayed using visual cues indicating the print characteristics denoted by the active job ticket, as edited.

The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to:

enable an operator of the information handling system to create a plurality of additional job tickets by, for each additional job ticket:

choosing one from among;

loading a blank job ticket as the active job ticket; loading a selected, previously-created job ticket as the active job ticket;

retaining the first job ticket as the active job ticket; and loading a default job ticket as the active job ticket; and enable an operator of the information handling system to edit the print characteristics of the active job ticket to create the additional job ticket.

- [c28] The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said processor to implement a visual ticketing application whereby the first print job is displayed using visual cues indicating the print characteristics denoted by the active job ticket, as edited.
- [c29] A program product comprising:
 a computer readable storage medium; and
 end user interface program instructions stored on said medium and effective
 when executing on an information handling system to access a first print job
 which is stored accessibly to said information handling system and which
 defines a document to be printed and to:
 enable an operator of the information handling system to create a first job
 ticket describing print instructions applicable to the first print job;
 enable an operator of the information handling system to create at least one
 additional job ticket describing different print instructions applicable to the first
 print job; and
 store each job ticket accessibly to the information handling system.
- [c30] The product of claim 29 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to enable an operator of the information handling system to create a plurality of additional job tickets applicable to the first print job.
- [c31] The product of claim 29 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to implement a visual ticketing application to enable an operator of the information handling system to create job tickets applicable to the first print job.
- [c32]
 The product of claim 29 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to:

enable an operator of the information handling system to alter the first print job by moving, deleting or inserting at least one page in the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the alteration of the first print job.

- [c33] The product of claim 30 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to: enable an operator of the information handling system to alter the first print job by moving, deleting or inserting at least one page in the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the alteration of the first print job.
- [c34] The product of claim 29 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to: store each job ticket with an indication of which job ticket was last active with respect to the first print job.
- The product of claim 29 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to retain the print characteristics of the at least one imported page as defined in the job ticket associated with the second print job;

 automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.
- [c36] The product of claim 30 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to retain the

print characteristics of the at least one imported page as defined in the job ticket associated with the second print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.

- The product of claim 29 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to:

 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;

 enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to assign a default set of print characteristics to the at least one imported page corresponding to a set of document-wide print characteristics defined in a currently active job ticket associated with the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the at least one additional job ticket appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.
- The product of claim 30 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to:
 enable an operator of the information handling system to import at least one page from a second print job into the first print job;
 enable the operator of the information handling system to choose to assign a default set of print characteristics to the at least one imported page corresponding to a set of document-wide print characteristics defined in the currently active job ticket associated with the first print job; automatically amend the print instructions of the first job ticket and of the plurality of additional job tickets appropriately to account for the at least one imported page.
- [c39]
 The product of claim 29 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to:
 enable an operator of the information handling system to create at least one additional job ticket by;

choosing one from among;

loading a blank job ticket as the active job ticket;
loading a selected, previously-created job ticket as the active job ticket;
retaining the first job ticket as the active job ticket; and
loading a default job ticket as the active job ticket; and
enable an operator of the information handling system to edit the print
characteristics of the active job ticket to create the at least one additional job
ticket.

- [c40] The product of claim 39 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to implement a visual ticketing application whereby the first print job is displayed using visual cues indicating the print characteristics denoted by the active job ticket, as edited.
- [c41] The product of claim 30 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to: enable an operator of the information handling system to create a plurality of additional job tickets by, for each additional job ticket: choosing one from among;

loading a blank job ticket as the active job ticket;
loading a selected, previously-created job ticket as the active job ticket;
retaining the first job ticket as the active job ticket; and
loading a default job ticket as the active job ticket; and
enable an operator of the information handling system to edit the print
characteristics of the active job ticket to create the additional job ticket.

[c42] The product of claim 41 wherein said user interface program instructions are effective when executing on said information handling system to implement a visual ticketing application whereby the first print job is displayed using visual cues indicating the print characteristics denoted by the active job ticket, as edited.